

Selectmen's Minutes  
12 July 1999  
7:00pm

The regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting was called to order by the chair, George Lagassa at 7:00pm. Those present included Jack Steiner, Allen Hines (Selectman), and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator).

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of July 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the regular minutes of June 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- I. Administration/Business
  - a. Minutes - June 28<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Payroll
  - c. Manifest
  - d. Veteran's Exemption FY 2000 William Rival / Karol LaCroix
  - e. Elderly Exemption - Dorothea Palmer 80+ years
  - f. Property Tax Abatement - Stephen & Sharon Demarais (3091.62)
  - g. Auditor - Conflict of Interest Statements (signatures)
  - h. Executive Council Newsletter
  - i. Hampton Ford - Letter of Credit
  - j. Dredge & Fill Permit
  - k. DOT - Excavation Permit (HWW)
  - l. LBH - Historic Designation / National Register of Historical Places

The Board briefly reviewed the Property Liability Trust agreement with the Town for insurance coverage. The TA explained that one of the Board members or the TA could be granted CEO authorization to execute the adopting resolution for the insurance agreement. Mr. Hines made the motion to grant the TA CEO authorization to execute the insurance agreement with NHMA's Property Liability Trust. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The TA briefed the Board about a new service offering from the Rockingham Community Action Program (RCAP). The program offered senior citizens low interest loans that enabled them to stay in their houses longer. At the time of sale of the house the loans would be repaid. Loan amounts were based on house value. The loans were means tested and qualifying criteria included income thresholds of less than 35k and asset amounts not exceeding 60k. Full details were available at the RCAP. Mr. Steiner asked how the program could be better publicized. It was suggested that details of and the RCAP contact for the program be included in the Library Newsletter.

The Board reviewed the issue of bike paths in North Hampton. Board members were supportive of the idea and reviewed a draft letter by the Town's RPC representative, Robert Landman. Money for bike path construction in North Hampton did not make the NHDOT cut in the last round of transportation enhancement funding. The draft letter addressed this lack of funding by having the Town match 20% of the cost (20% of the amount = \$74,136) of bike path construction. Some discussion concerning the nature of the obligation such a letter placed upon the Town ensued. There was concern over whether the letter might constitute a financial commitment from the municipality or not. The TA believed any offer of funding from the Town for bike paths was contingent upon action at Town Meeting. The Board agreed and asked that the TA insert language into the draft letter indicating that funding for bike paths was contingent upon action at Town Meeting. Mr. Lagassa made the motion to send the letter to the RPC with the new language. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

**Selectmen Issues**

*Update of HWW Appraisal*

Mr. Lagassa provided a brief synopsis of activity associated with the HWW appraisal. Mr. Lagassa noted that he had met with Brooks Valuation Services and requested that a more detailed letter outlining the scope of services be submitted to the TA. Upon review of the letter by the Board, the appraisal work could commence. Barring any complications associated with access to HWW information by Brooks Valuation, the appraisal study could be completed within 6 weeks of a contract agreement.. The price for the appraisal work would not exceed 30k.

Mr. Hines sought input from fellow Board members regarding the build-out study for the rest of the Town proposed by Bob Neville at the last Board meeting. The build-out study would be conducted on that portion of Town outside the Little River Watershed. The cost of the build-out analysis is 25k. Mr. Hines proposed going to the Conservation Commission to see whether they would be willing to fund a portion of the study. Mr. Hines believed that it was important to see how current land use regulations would impact future land use in Town. Previous master plan surveys, and surveys from the Little River Watershed Project, all indicate that people want to maintain the Town's rural character and provide bike and pedestrian paths. Mr. Steiner agreed and mentioned that other sources of funding included EPA challenge grants that addressed the problems of sprawl. Another benefit of the study included identifying other critical land parcels for conservation.

Mr. Steiner briefed the Board on his efforts to develop a piece of Hampton Water Works property located off Lovering Road into playing fields for North Hampton youth. He noted that the effort was only just beginning and that he would update Board members on the status of the effort.

**Questions & Comments**

Lucille Ellingwood commented that bike paths would be too dangerous on Route 111 due to the narrowness of the road.

There being no further business to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30pm. Mr. Steiner made a motion to convene in non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss personnel and legal issues. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister  
Town Administrator